

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A protective collar, for protecting the head or face of very small children comprising a substantially flat annular part (10) that, which is open to one side (15), thereby forming two annular ends (17, 18), wherein the collar comprises a fastening means, in the area of said annular ends (17, 18), fastening means (25', 25") by means of which the annular ends (17, 18) can be fixed one to the other thereby forming a collar in the shape of a truncated cone;~~

~~wherein, characterized in that the annular part is formed from a flat cushion filled with a flat molded body.~~

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A protective collar, comprising a substantially flat annular part that is open to one side, thereby forming two annular ends, wherein the collar comprises a fastening means in the area of said annular ends, by means of which the annular ends can be fixed one to the other thereby forming a collar in the shape of a truncated cone;~~

~~wherein the annular part Protective collar for protecting the head or face of very small children comprising a substantially flat annular part (10), which is open to one side (15), thereby forming two annular ends (17, 18), the collar comprising, in the area of said annular ends (17, 18), fastening means (25', 25") by means of which the annular ends (17, 18) can be fixed one to the other thereby forming a collar in the shape of a truncated cone, characterized in that the annular part consists ofcomprises an inner part of substantially stable shape and a detachable envelope material intended to be placed on top thereof.~~

3-6 (Cancelled)

7. (New) The protective collar of claim 1, wherein the annular part has a one-piece design.

8. (New) The protective collar of claim 1, wherein the fastening means is configured as a Velcro fastener.

9. (New) The protective collar of claim 1, wherein the annular part is made from a lightweight material.

10. (New) The protective collar of claim 4, wherein the lightweight material is non-woven felt.

11. (New) The protective collar of claim 1, wherein the fastening means are provided on the annular part for fastening or fixing a substantially tube-shaped therapeutic device.

12. (New) The protective collar of claim 2, wherein the annular part has a one-piece design.

13. (New) The protective collar of claim 2, wherein the fastening means is configured as a Velcro fastener.

14. (New) The protective collar of claim 2, wherein the annular part is made from a lightweight material.

15. (New) The protective collar of claim 10, wherein the lightweight material is non-woven felt.

16. (New) The protective collar of claim 2, wherein the fastening means are provided on the annular part for fastening or fixing a substantially tube-shaped therapeutic device.